

REPORT

NATIVE PAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

Week ending the 18th June 1904.

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I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

THE *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 9th June has an article headed "Lord Curzon's short-sightedness," in the course of which the writer observes:—

The Tibet expedition.

SANJIVANI,
June 9th, 1904.

The avowed object of the Tibet expedition is to secure commercial advantages. With that object the expedition will march to Lhasa, India providing men and money. But the question is, where is the guarantee that the Lamas will be at Lhasa when that place is reached? What will the British Government do in case the Lamas with their officers and principal men should flee to some inaccessible region or to Mongolia? Will the English then go about the country searching for the Lamas or establish themselves in some convenient place in or near Lhasa? But Tibet is not a fertile country like India or Burma; it does not produce sweet fruits like Afghanistan, nor does it contain rich mines like South Africa. What, then, will the English do with that sterile, resourceless, uninhabited, and cold country? How will the object of the expedition be fulfilled if the Lamas are not found or if a responsible minister does not make his appearance? Even in this summer season, British soldiers, who are inured to cold, are unable to stand the rigour of the Tibetan climate and are falling sick and dying. To what a plight the British and the Indian soldiers will be reduced when winter returns it is difficult to imagine. Permanent occupation of the country, therefore, is out of the range of possibility.

Even if all our apprehensions and conjectures are falsified, and the Lamas are met with at Lhasa, what course will be followed if they should refuse to sign any treaty? Their territories may be wrested from them, but how can arrangements be made for the administration of the country? The income derived from the country will not suffice to maintain the costly system of British administration. It would be against all principles of justice and morality to saddle India with the cost of the expedition, as Tibet is beyond the recognised scientific frontier of India. If, again, India is made to bear the cost of administration and protection of the Tibetan territory, it will not only be the grossest injustice to her, but will simply prove her ruin.

If the Lamas now actually sign any treaty with the British Government, what guarantee is there that it will be respected in future? The fact is that neither the annexation of Tibet nor the stationing of a British Resident there can be considered safe.

The addition of the word "Lhasa" to Lord Curzon's title would not in any way save the Indians from their chronic poverty. His Lordship's ill-conceived Tibetan expedition is bound to make every subject of the British Empire feel the worst consequences of his selfish and short-sighted policy.

2. In an article headed "A Peaceful Mission" the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 10th June writes as follows:—

The Tibet expedition.

DAILY HITAVADI,
June 10th, 1904.

The poisonous snake which so long looked like a garland of flowers, has at last thrown off its mask. The so-called "Peaceful Mission" has spread consternation in the ever-peaceful Tibetan valley. Englishmen, with professions of peace in their mouth, are driving the knife through the heart of the meek, peace-loving Tibetans. We divined the real motive of Lord Curzon, hard-hearted and Machiavelian as he is, when, at his bidding, the "Peaceful Mission," fully equipped with murderous weapons, was about to start through the Himalayas. We then made the strongest protest we could make, because we apprehended danger in future. But all our warnings were cries in the wilderness, as the uncontrolled and uncontrollable Viceroy was the sole guiding authority of the mission. Our last hope was in the British Parliament. But the British people have now lost their head through pride of empire and are beside themselves with joy at the prospect of territorial extension. Considerations of justice, religion, and mercy have now no place in their heart. A rare opportunity had presented itself and the clever Viceroy took full advantage of it by sending the mission under a pretence of political expediency and of commercial exigencies; and, on the eve of his departure from India, succeeded in kindling the flame of war in Tibet.

When at Guru the ill-armed Tibetans were mown down with rifle and cannon fire like wild beasts, and the snow-white valley was crimsoned with their

heart's-blood, there burst forth a tremendous rejoicing in India as well as in England. But things have taken a different turn since. The courage and heroism displayed by the Tibetans and the scientific weapons with which they are equipped have bewildered the English. What was once considered a very easy affair appears now to be a very different matter indeed. But all the same, "prestige" must be maintained and Lhasa must be reached whatever may be the expenditure of Indian blood and treasure. The Tibetans may be vanquished at last, but it is to be doubted whether, after all, the game will be worth the candle.

The English are powerful and possess the sinews of war. They are ever ready to deprive other people of their territories. Let them deluge the world with blood if they like so to do, carry the flag of victory through the heart of continents, throw justice, morality and all other virtues into the sea, and convert the earth into one great theatre of their achievements. But how is it that they are afraid to tell the truth? Why call a military expedition a "Peaceful Mission" and wage war upon the people of Tibet with the money of the famished, helpless Indians?

If it is meanness to spend a people's hard-earned money in utter disregard of their poverty and wretchedness, for the purpose of waging a war of aggression, we fail to see how the English people, so proud of their civilization, can gain the approbation of their conscience. Let them declare their real purpose without any reserve. Famine, plague, and water-scarcity may decimate the country, but the rulers will have their own way. The British Government, dominated by the mercantile interest, is deaf to the cries of the Indians, but the same Government shows itself extremely eager to obtain evidence of their loyalty on occasions like the Delhi Darbar. How incongruous the sight!

Recent events make it clear that the Tibet war will not soon terminate. Hoards of the people's money must therefore be spent on it. The British Government is bound to pay the cost of a war waged outside India. But as the Government of India knew perfectly well that there would be terrible opposition if the English people were asked to provide the expenses of the Tibet war, it cleverly named the military expedition a "Peaceful Mission," thereby making it possible for India to be saddled with the cost of the operations. The loud cries of the Indian people might safely be ignored, but it would not do to attempt a thing like that in England. It was Lord Curzon who must be credited with this masterly manoeuvre.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

PALLIVASI,
June 1st, 1904.

3. A correspondent of the *Pallivasi* [Kalna] of the 1st June makes the following complaints against Ahamadi Shaikh, the panchayet of Naopara Union under the Kalna thana in the Burdwan district:—

- (1) He has selected his own men to be his assistants.
- (2) He makes under-assessments where his friends are concerned and over-assessments in the cases of those with whom he has any quarrel.
- (3) He takes bribes in such cases as are sent to him for enquiry. When the case, in which Madassar Hossain Chaudhuri of Bodshaha village had brought a criminal charge against Lahar Shaikh of the Naopara village, came to the panchayet for enquiry, he demanded a bribe from the defendant. The defendant did not, however, consent to give him a bribe. On account of this, the panchayet realised from Lahar a large sum by an attachment of his properties without any previous notice and without taking out a process for attachment.

(4) The panchayet is guilty of many other malpractices which will come to light if a special enquiry is instituted into his conduct.

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-
ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
June 8th, 1904.

4. The *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 8th June writes:—

The Police Commission's report.

The Police Commission appears to have made the astounding discovery that the Indian police are very oppressive. An equally precious discovery made by certain philosophers was that the sun

risers during the day! From the prince to the peasant everybody in India knew that the police were generally oppressive and corrupt. What, then, was the necessity for spending thousands of rupees for ascertaining this fact? The people wanted to know what the Commission had to say about the remedy for this evil. From reports published in newspapers, it appears that the Commission has recommended the employment of some more Europeans in the Police Department and also a slight increase in the pay of the native police. But nothing will stop corruption and oppression, of which love of money, love of power, and private grudge are the principal causes.

Recently various complaints were made against the members of the Tangail police and some of them have been punished. Khadaram Singh, the town head-constable, committed gross outrages upon one Harangi Goala and wrested from him a silver *taga*. The Police Inspector enquired into the case and reported it as false, and it was dismissed by the Deputy Magistrate. On a motion made to the Sessions Judge a retrial was ordered, and the result was that the accused was fined Rs. 25. The Police Inspector was alleged to have committed gross illegalities in this case.

It thus appears that mere increase of pay to Inspectors will not reform the police. Something more is necessary. We hope the Lieutenant-Governor will take all these facts into his consideration when taking steps to reform the police.

5. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 9th June publishes the following from a correspondent:—

Crime in the Jamalpur subdivision of the Mymensingh district.

Since the publication of the cases of theft in the *Sanjivani* (see Report on Native Papers of the 28th May, 1904, paragraph 5) the oppressions of the *budmashes* have greatly increased. Those who are suspected as being the correspondents of the *Sanjivani* are being grossly insulted.

A man named Samir Moodi, an inhabitant of the Nayanagar village, having given certain information to the police against the *budmashes*, they burnt down his houses on the 11th *Jaistha* last and committed other atrocities.

Thefts were committed in the houses of Munshi Sheikh of Kangal-Kusa, Nabi Sheikh of Kajaikata-Baluchar, Ubal, a prostitute of Nayanagar, and Pratap Jhupri, a Muhammadan, and much valuable property was carried away.

The police neglect their duty and the people are helpless. Amlitolla and Megharbari are the centres of the *budmashes*.

It is to be hoped the District Magistrate and the Subdivisional Officer of Jamalpur will take prompt steps to relieve the oppressed.

6. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 10th June says that some wicked men in Calcutta are in the habit of bathing in the Hooghly at places reserved for women.

They sometimes loiter where the women change clothes. This is most objectionable. The authorities should issue strict orders that no man may go to those places. A case, now *sub judice*, of horrible outrage upon female modesty committed at a bathing ghat in Calcutta has come to light.

7. A correspondent of the *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 10th June

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,
June 10th, 1904.

The Bengali drama "Satnam."

writes as follows about the Bengali drama "Satnam" and its author, Babu Giris Chandra Ghosh:—

No Musalman can bear the sight of a satanic play in which the characters are taken from Musalman society and which deals with the ladies of the seraglio of nababs and badshas. The Musalman community is still strong enough to avenge such an insult. It would not do for the author merely to withdraw the drama from circulation. He must receive a sound lesson for what he has done. Some time ago, 1,800 copies of a book entitled "Dharmabir Muhammad" had to be destroyed by its publisher, Babu Guru Das Chatterji. But what deterrent effect had this on future writers? The rich, influential, and educated members of the Musalman community, the lawyers among them in special, should lose no time to seek redress in the matter in a court of justice. We are prepared to subscribe to the cost, if necessary.

SANJIVANI,
June 9th, 1904.

DAILY
HITAVADI,
June 10th, 1904.

BASUMATI,
June 11th, 1904.

8. A correspondent of the *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 11th June writes that on the 26th May last, one Imamuddin, the clerk of the Kaliganj-Goalundo steamer S.S. *Ibis*, with two other men, committed gross outrage upon Kusum, a female passenger from the Panibari station. The steamer was at anchor at Serajganj for the night. While all the men on board fell asleep, the ruffians dragged the woman into a cabin and committed outrage upon her, one of her fingers being severely hurt by the struggle. The authorities should make a careful enquiry and punish the offenders.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

MURSHIDABAD
HITAISHI,
June 8th, 1904.

9. Referring to the motion which has been made in the High Court praying for a transfer from Murshidabad of the case between the Maharaja of Kasim Bazar and his tenants in the Beldanga village, the *Murshidabad Hitaishi* [Murshidabad] of the 8th June writes as follows:—

It is to be regretted that Mr. Hamilton, the Officiating District Magistrate of Murshidabad, is following the footsteps of Mr. Carey in the discharge of his official duties. The young Magistrates of the present day misuse the large powers with which they are vested, and lack the good qualities which used to characterise Magistrates in bygone days. Nowadays, such Magistrates as oppress the people are promoted by the Government for the sake of *prestige*, and, most probably, it is this chance of promotion which makes many a Magistrate oppressive. Mr. Carey incurred the displeasure of the Murshidabad people by various acts of oppression and arbitrariness and many were the petitions which the authorities received against him. Still Mr. Carey has been made permanent in the third grade of Magistrates. It is not meant to say that Mr. Carey's conduct was bad everywhere. On the contrary, he kept the *amla* within proper control and was an object of dread to corrupt people. The bribery cases which he initiated in Murshidabad were not also ill-advised.

HITAVADI,
June 10th, 1904.

10. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 10th June writes as follows:—

The District Magistrate of Murshidabad. How long will Mr. Carey, the District Magistrate of Murshidabad, continue to persecute the inhabitants of the district? His conduct in the Bhagirathi *chur* affair and in the affair relating to Babu Ganapat Sing, his oppressions on khas-mahal raiyats, and the eagerness which he showed to have Babu Nava Kumar Chakravarti, the District Engineer, dismissed, have made him notorious. He is the *ma bap* of the District Board. Justice could not therefore be done to Babu Nava Kumar. But in other matters Government has not approved of his vagaries. Sometime ago he charged Babu Bibhuti Sekhar Mukherji with having taken illegal gratification. Bibhuti Babu has, however, been honourably acquitted by the Sessions Judge of Burdwan. In his judgment the Judge observed that, in the face of the facts that the accused person had been searched on a warrant issued by Mr. Carey, that the mukhtar for the accused person had been temporarily suspended, and that a policeman had been quartered in the accused person's house, no local man had ventured to come forward as a witness for the defence. What would Bibhuti Babu's fate have been if he had not had the means of moving the High Court and bearing the cost of an appeal? Will not Government take Mr. Carey to task for all this? He should at once be transferred from Murshidabad.

BARISAL HITAISHI,
June 8th, 1904.

11. The *Barisal Hitaishi* [Barisal] of the 8th June says that Mr. Temple, the District Judge of Backergunge, is a perfect gentleman. But that is not the only qualification that the judicial head of a district should possess. Mr. Temple has failed to satisfy the public in the discharge of his duties as a Judge. More than once have the Hon'ble Judges of the Calcutta High Court come to inspect his work. But this has produced an effect quite contrary to what was desired. Mr. Temple is now compensating for his former slowness by making short work of cases with the greatest haste and hurry. The local Bar is in a ferment, but it appears to be too effeminate to take any active steps in the matter. A strong agitation should be set up against Mr. Temple's conduct.

12. The *Jyoti* [Chittagong] of the 9th June complains that persons coming to Chittagong town from the mufassal for depositing revenue and road cess are subjected to great trouble and harassment at the hands of the *amla*. It is to be hoped the authorities will take due notice of the matter.

Harassment to persons coming to Chittagong town for depositing revenue and road cess.

OTI,
June 9th, 1904.

13. A correspondent of the *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 9th June writes from Giridih that in a case instituted by him summonses could not be served upon two of the witnesses within four months through the neglect of Court peons, who must have submitted false reports about the whereabouts of those witnesses. It would appear that the greed of the peons who are entrusted with the service of summonses must be satisfied before there could be any hope of the summonses being properly served. Is there no remedy for this?

The conduct of Giridih Court peons.

SANJIVANI,
June 9th, 1904.

14. Another correspondent of the same paper writing from Netrakona in the Mymensingh district, makes the following complaints against the local Sub-Deputy Magistrate:—

Complaints against Babu Haris Chandra Sarkar, Sub-Deputy Magistrate of Netrakona in the Mymensingh district.

(1) Babu Haris Chandra Sarkar, Sub-Deputy Magistrate of Netrakona, does not permit bail in connection with the warrants in cases under sections 417, 403, and 498 of the Indian Penal Code.

(2) He issues search warrants against women in cases under section 498. Possessing only second-class powers, it is inexplicable how he issues search warrants.

(3) He compels Musalman witnesses to take the *Koran* in their hands when giving evidence.

(4) He never allows bail to the accused under section 498 unless a surety for Rs. 1,000 is found.

(5) Cross-examination and argument are seldom allowed in his Court. He threatens mukhtars with fine if they want to say anything.

(6) He never allows time for the production of witnesses and other evidence, and is eager to dispose of cases under section 186 without allowing time for the appearing in Court of the Civil Court peon and without sending for the records from the Munsif's Court.

(7) Sometimes he shows a decided bias in favour of one party and is hard upon the other party and their mukhtars. The decision also corresponds to what precedes.

The editor recommends that an enquiry should be made into these allegations.

15. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 10th June says that corruption seems to prevail everywhere—in Government offices, railway offices, and in the Police Department. In some offices all the officers from the highest to the lowest are corrupt. Indeed, this period of English rule may be fitly called an era of corruption.

The District Magistrate of Gaya is vigorously trying to root out corruption from the Gaya Collectorate. Some employes have been dismissed.

A few years ago a ministerial officer in the Court of a District Judge used to take bribe in open Court. The *amla* was one day caught red-handed by the District Judge himself. Finding that the *amla* had taken Rs. 4 as *bakshish* from the party winning a case, the Judge ordered him to return Rs. 3 to the party, which the officer at once did.

DAILY HITAVADI,
June 10th, 1904.

(d)—Education.

16. A correspondent of the *Pratinidhi* [Comilla] of the 4th June says that the cause of the moral deterioration of students in Comilla is two-fold, viz., the presence of grown-up boys inside schools and of *gundas* outside them. Not long ago the wicked students in the town were divided into two classes. One class kept themselves constantly engaged in brawls and in plundering orchards, and the other class ruined the younger boys with the help of outside *gundas*. The second class was composed of grown-up boys. The students of the Entrance class often tried to save the younger boys from the clutches of the grown-up wicked boys, and this gave rise to quarrels with the latter which sometimes ended in bloodshed. The

Comilla students.

PRATINIDHI,
June 4th, 1904.

matter attracted the notice of the head-master and the police. The really wicked boys escaped punishment, because they would always remain behind outside *gundas*. The comparatively innocent first class boys were punished and checked. The condition of things is so bad at present that it cannot be improved without the combined efforts of the school authorities, the guardians of the students, and the District Magistrate. None but the Magistrate can check the outside *gundas*.

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

PALLIVASI,
June 1st, 1904.

17. A correspondent of the *Pallivasi* [Kalna] of the 1st June says that the Asansol Municipality in the Burdwan district is extremely indifferent to the question of water-supply

Water-supply in Asansol town.

in the town. The only source from which the rate-payers of the Municipality get their supply of drinking-water is a number of pipes which belong to the Railway Company and conduct water from the Damodar river. This water is very impure and often contains small leeches. The attention of the Government is drawn to the matter.

MEDINI BANDHAY,
June 8th, 1904.

18. The *Medini Bandhav* [Midnapore] of the 8th June speaks of the prevalence of severe scarcity of water throughout the Midnapore district. On account of this every year cholera breaks and carries out in the district away thousands of its inhabitants. Last year, the distress became severe in the Midnapore town itself, and there was an outbreak of cholera in consequence.

Water-scarcity in the Midnapore district.

BANKURA DARPAN,
June 8th, 1904.

19. The *Bankura Darpan* [Bankura] of the 8th June refers to the prevalence of severe water-scarcity in the Bankura district. Even villagers, who are unaccustomed to

Water-scarcity in the Bankura district.

ventilate their grievances, are crying for the excavation of tanks by the District Board. In their opinion, the sinking of small wells is nothing but childishness. Bankura town itself suffers from severe water-scarcity. A large tank should be excavated at the centre of the town. If there is not sufficient money for the excavation of a new tank, let the local Municipality buy up any two old tanks and turn them into municipal tanks. The Municipality is sinking a large well in the town. But can a single well supply water to a whole town?

BANGAVASI,
June 11th, 1904.

20. A correspondent of the *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 11th June writes that an old tank belonging to one Panchu Mandal, an inhabitant of Santoshnagar, a village in the Jessore district, sadly needs cleansing. During the

Water-scarcity in the Jessore district.

early summer months the water of this tank becomes unfit for drinking and, when used, spreads malaria and cholera in the surrounding villages. A *doba* to the west of the village, which supplied drinking-water to cattle, has dried up. The attention of Government is drawn to this.

BANGAVASI,

21. The same paper is surprised to hear a rumour that the authorities contemplate imposing a tax for the supply of drinking-water. How can Government

Water-scarcity in Bengal.

have the heart to tax an already poor and overtaxed people upon whom the road-cess and the chaukidari-tax are already pressing too heavily? Sir Andrew Fraser himself has taken up the question of water-supply. This fact indeed holds out much hope. But judging from what happened in the past, it is scarcely possible that the problem of water supply will have any satisfactory solution now. The Sovereign is bound to give his people water to drink. It is inconceivable that a new tax could be imposed for this purpose. Some anxiety on this score may, however, be caused by the fact that the Hon'ble Tariniprasad has as yet got no reply to his letter. But possibly Government has not yet arrived at any decision on the subject.

It is said that a zamindar in the Manbhum district has been asked by the District Magistrate to relieve water-scarcity in his zamindari. This report shows that Government is thinking over the question, but has not been able to come to any definite conclusion yet. But a decision should be speedily arrived at.

DAINIK,
June 12th, 1904.

22. Referring to the circular issued by the Hon'ble Mr. Shirres to Divisional Commissioners on the subject of water-scarcity in Bengal, the *Dainik* [Calcutta] of the

Water-scarcity in Bengal.

12th June writes:—

We took up the circular and began to study it in right earnest. We thought that at last the helpless people of Bengal would be relieved of their sufferings from water-scarcity. But the perusal of the circular has disappointed us.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor says that there is not a village in Bengal but has got one or two tanks in it. One may be curious to know how His Honour could come to such a conclusion, as he had passed the greater part of his time out of Bengal. The fact is that in many parts of Bengal even respectable ladies are obliged to go to a long distance for bringing drinking-water; water is sometimes stolen from the cottage of the poor; and in many places it is not to be had for the purpose of washing the cremation ground—a practice which is considered indispensably necessary by the Hindus. The old tanks in Bengal villages sadly need repairs. In many places there are no tanks at all. These facts are indubitable. It is most unfortunate that His Honour should have arrived at such a conclusion. "O Lord! We are afraid of your circular. We have nothing to do with it. It matters little whether you issue circulars or not. But, O Lord, open your eyes and look at the actual state of things."

23. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 13th June writes as follows:—

DAILY HITAVADI,
June 13th, 1904.

Water-scarcity in Bengal.

From the circular addressed to Divisional Commissioners on the question of water-scarcity, it appears that His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor has committed a blunder at the outset. From reports received from different District Officers, His Honour has come to the conclusion that in almost all villages there are wells, tanks and other reservoirs of water capable of supplying sufficient drinking water to the villagers; but that the ignorant people pollute the water by bathing in it and in various other ways and so bring upon themselves many diseases. This may be true in some villages, but in the case of the great majority of them His Honour's theory does not apply. We know that in numerous villages water is not obtainable anywhere within a radius of two or three miles. Suppose there is only one tank in any village. The people are thus obliged to use its water not only for drinking purposes but for all purposes, and the water is therefore polluted in a few days. The pollution of tanks is not due so much to ignorance as to the want of an adequate number of tanks.

His Honour suggests that instead of excavating new tanks, the old ones should be re-excavated, thereby making arrangements for the supply of water more cheaply. But in this work the people must come forward with their share of the expenses or Government will do nothing of its own motion. Government proposes to teach self-help to the people in this matter. But we are constrained to say that it is not generous of the Government, nor does it redound to its good name to attempt to teach the people the virtue of self-help, having first swallowed up the road cess and the public works cess without the least scruple. Does Government seriously believe that the people would willingly and deliberately ruin their health by drinking polluted water if they could avoid it?

The truth is that a huge sum of money must be spent before this widespread water-scarcity can be relieved. How can the poor villagers contribute towards the excavation or re-excavation of tanks when they can hardly manage to feed themselves? The *zulm* committed nowadays upon zamindars and rich people and the strain of the present hard times make it impossible for them to do anything in this direction. How, then, can this problem be solved?

24. Referring to the Bengal Government's circular on the subject of water-supply in Bengal, the *Rangalaya* [Calcutta] of the 13th June writes as follows:—

RANGALAYA,
June 13th, 1904.

The grant for water-supply in Bengal.

"If in any case the local authorities would contribute one-third of the cost," says the Lieutenant-Governor at the very outset, "and the public another third, the Government would contribute the

remaining third up to a maximum of Rs. 5,000 for any one district and of Rs. 50,000 for the whole province." What prodigious charity!

If our English rulers would keep us living, let them make such arrangements as their own competence would allow them to make, but let them not depend on our help. Sir Andrew Fraser depends on us for removing the water-scarcity of the country. Lifeless, worthless, and fossilised as we are, His Honour wants to give us advice and instruction, and has, as a matter of fact, given us some advice. This is what makes us disclose our mind on the present occasion.

There is not only a scarcity of good drinking-water in Bengal, but a scarcity of water for every ordinary purpose of life. This acute scarcity of water can only be removed by the re-excavation of all the old tanks and the excavation of new ones in the country which will supply to its inhabitants both good drinking-water and water for all other purposes.

It has been proposed to make the District Boards owners of all the tanks which they will excavate. We have full sympathy with this proposal, and, indeed, the Native Press has had the honour of making it more than once before. This is, however, a matter which can be developed slowly and in time. At present, the grant of Rs. 50,000 appears to be nothing but ridiculous in our sight. "A District or Subdivisional Officer," observes the Lieutenant-Governor, "who goes about himself, and is prepared to make an immediate contribution of not more than Rs. 50 when he sees that it is wanted, can do a great deal towards improving the water-supply." What a noble idea! Charity indeed! Bengal will now be overflowing with water! What more shall we say? It is sheer waste of time and labour to say anything to the person whose word is supreme and who cares nothing for what other people say. Still we are grateful to the Lieutenant-Governor for the grant, small though it is. What could we do even if this mite were withheld?

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-ANANDA
BAZAR PATRIKA,
June 8th, 1904.

25. The *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 8th June says that a road, called the Manicknagar Ghat Road, within the Bhadreswar Municipality, leading to the *Paschim Vahinir Ghat*, is regarded as sacred by the Hindus. It is a very old road and is lined on both sides by sacred banian trees. But unfortunately Messrs. Thomas, Duff & Co. are trying to purchase land on both sides of the road and establish a mill thereon. The Company tried various means to take possession of the road. Failing in their attempts, they have arranged to purchase it through the present District Magistrate. A notice was published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 25th May last giving particulars of the land proposed to be purchased on behalf of Government. Does Government mean to say that it proposes to acquire the Manicknagar Ghat Road at the public expense for public convenience and then to make it over to the Company for building their factory on it? The notice in the *Gazette* has greatly disturbed the minds of the inhabitants of the locality. It is to be hoped Government will give up its purpose of purchasing the land in question and thereby reassure the public.

26. The *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 8th June says that the District Boards in Bengal will most probably exert themselves to make railway extensions within their jurisdictions after the Bengal Local Self-Government Amendment Bill has been passed. And as the Bill authorises them to make loans for the purpose and levy taxes for paying the interest on such loans, it is feared that there will be an increase of taxation in no distant future. All the District Boards will be reduced to the present condition of the Nadia District Board. At present the numbers of elected and nominated members of the District Boards are equal. There should therefore be a rule to the effect that no person who has any connection with Government or Government officials should be allowed to stand as a candidate for election to a District Board.

CHARU MIHIR,
June 8th, 1904.

CHARU MIHIR.

27. The same paper say that the health of Mymensingh town is gradually deteriorating and the place has become the hot-bed of all sorts of diseases. The condition of the local drains is extremely bad and most of them are *cutcha*. There is water-connection in many houses in the

The health of Mymensingh town.

town, and the water flowing out of them keeps the *cutch* drains constantly wet. The municipal authorities ought to have thought twice before granting water-connection to these houses. Many of the latrines in the town are situated over drains, which are consequently made unhealthy by their washings. There is something wrong with the water-pipes in the town. They often give out discoloured water. It is not without an inward fear of danger that one drinks such water. An Engineer should be engaged to investigate the cause of the discolouration.

28. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 9th June complains that while the southern part of the town area is thoroughly cleansed, the northern part is, so far as conservancy arrangements, are concerned, left in a miserable

The condition of the streets in the northern part of Calcutta.

condition. Except the few principal streets, all the other streets and lanes remain full of rubbish and filth, which, being decomposed by the great heat, emit a disgusting smell. Mr. Allen, the Chairman of the Municipality, said in reply to a question on the subject asked by Rai Sitanath Roy, Bahadur, that owing to the decrease in the number of municipal carts, removal of street-sweepings in the afternoon had been discontinued. But why was the number of carts reduced when the rate-payers were paying their taxes regularly?

29. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 13th June has the following:—

The condition of the roads in the native quarter in Calcutta.

The municipal authorities in Calcutta appear to think that they are perfectly irresponsible. The native rate-payers pay the greater part of the taxes, yet they have to undergo the greatest inconveniences. The mud in Hatkhola, Jorabagan, Posta, and Burrabazar is proverbial. It is simply disgraceful that the authorities are doing nothing to repair the roads even now when the rainy season has already commenced. The condition of the Colutola Road near Fouzdari Balakhana is horrible. There are pits in many places in which water accumulates to the great inconvenience and even danger to the passers-by. The case is the same with Harrison Road from the Strand to Halliday Street. The electric lamps are never lighted at the proper time. Almost every other lamp emits such a light as serves only to increase the difficulty of pedestrians.

30. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 10th June says that the manner in

The condition of Bengal Municipalities.

which Government had lately been behaving towards Bengal Municipalities led people to believe that it had made up its mind to deprive them of the privilege of local self-government. It is, therefore, to some extent gratifying to know, as appears from a remark made in the last official report on Bengal Municipalities, that Government considers their financial condition to be hopeful. The Municipalities in the 24-Parganas district and those near the metropolis are well off, and are making gradual progress in the matters of water-supply, drainage, etc. But the remoter Municipalities are very poor and unable to meet the wants and sanitary requirements of their rate-payers. Water scarcity is a constant scourge in those areas, and this it is impossible for them to remove without the help of the Government. Will not Government lend a helping hand in the matter until a fearful and widespread calamity overtakes the country in consequence of the prevailing water-scarcity?

31. The same paper says that the Footpath Inspectors in Calcutta

The Footpath Inspectors in Calcutta.

greatly harass and persecute road-side shop-keepers by carrying to the Municipal Office any article belonging to them which is found lying on the footpath, and making an exorbitant charge for its carriage. It was only the other day that Rs. 2 was realised from a China Bazar shop-keeper as the cost of carrying a box, half-full of glass-ware, from China Bazar to the Municipal Office. The box was being cleared from the footpath. For this slight offence the shop-keeper was mulcted in Rs. 2. On the other hand, the worthy Inspectors do nothing where roads are regularly blocked; for example, Gopal Chandra's Lane, in Colutola, is every day blocked and made dirty by horses belonging to some of its inhabitants. The attention of the municipal authorities has more than once been drawn to this fact, but to no effect.

SANJIVANI,
June 9th, 1904.

DAILY HITAVADI,
June 13th, 1904.

HITAVADI,
June 10th, 1904.

HITAVADI.

BHARAT MITRA,
June 11th, 1904.

32. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 11th June directs the attention of the municipal authorities of Calcutta to the oppressive conduct of the Footpath Inspectors who seize every article belonging to the shop-keepers that they find in front of their shops. They do not, however, take any action against the shop-keepers of that part of the Harrison Road which is near the Howrah Bridge, though the footpaths in that place are almost completely obstructed by the wares of shop-keepers.

The Footpath Inspectors of Calcutta.

BANGAVASI,
June 11th, 1904.

33. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 11th June complains that although Government proposed to appoint a Committee to report on the septic tank question and the owners of several mills discontinued the use of septic tanks, yet such tanks installed in the mills at Telinipara, Bhadreswar and other places continue to be used. The residents of the locality petitioned the Chairman of the local Municipality, praying that the use of the septic latrines might be discontinued till Government decided the question. The Chairman has refused to comply with this request. The attention of the authorities is drawn to the matter.

Septic tanks.

DAILY HITAVADI,
June 12th, 1904.

34. A correspondent of the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 12th June makes the following complaints against Mr. Thomson, the Chairman of the Deoghur Municipality:—

Complaints against the Chairman of the Deoghur Municipality.

(1) Mr. Thompson came to Deoghur only two weeks ago. He has been elected as Chairman of the Municipality. One day while the Court nazir was conversing with another gentleman on the road, Mr. Thomson passing that way struck the former with his whip and asked "*Rasta me kahe?*" and then went away.

(2) On the 3rd June last he severely beat a *gola* on the road.

(3) He has given orders that the thatched houses near the Trunk Road should be converted into tiled huts within 15 days or they will be pulled down. The owners of the houses are all poor men and are unable to comply with such a peremptory order. They know not where to go in the coming rainy season if their houses are demolished.

(4) He has issued another order to the effect that arrangements for separate urinals should be made in privies, and their contents must not be allowed to pass into the drains. This order, if carried out, is sure to necessitate increased taxation, as a result of an increase of conservancy staff that will be rendered necessary.

(5) Formerly the drains used to be cleansed twice daily. Now it is done only once and that very imperfectly. The condition of the roads is much worse than before. A pump was purchased at a great cost to draw well-water for watering the streets. But this pump is never used. Why then was so much money thrown away?

It is to be hoped that the attention of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor will be drawn to the doings of Mr. Thompson at Deoghur.

(g)—*Railways and Communications, including Canals and Irrigation.*

BANGAVASI,
June 11th, 1904.

35. A correspondent of the *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 11th June writes that the inhabitants of Hakula, a village in the Satkhira subdivision of the Khula district, are greatly inconvenienced for want of a bridge on a certain road near the village. The attention of the authorities is drawn to the matter.

A road requiring a bridge in the Khulna district.

RATNAKAR,
June 11th, 1904.

36. A correspondent of the *Ratnakar* [Asansol] of the 11th June says that passengers from Kalipahari station on the East Indian Railway are greatly inconvenienced on account of up trains Nos. 5 and 7 and the down train No. 8 not stopping there.

A railway inconvenience.

DAILY HITAVADI,
June 12th, 1904.

37. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 12th June makes the following complaints:—

Railway complaints.

(1) The timing of the local trains on the East Indian Railway is very irregular. Great inconvenience has been caused to passengers for the Bandel station by the discontinuance of the local train at 6-8 P.M. This train should be run again. For the convenience of employés in the Calcutta offices, No. 48 down train should start from Bandel

instead of Sheoraphuli, immediately after No. 26 down train. This arrangement will remove a great inconvenience.

(2) Native passengers for Simla are put to great inconvenience at the Kalka station for want of a waiting-room. Passengers by the Punjab Mail, who are unable to avail themselves of the 9 o'clock train, have to wait at Kalka for the whole night. Native passengers are not always allowed at the *serai* of the Maharaja of Patiala which is situated within half a mile of the station. The authorities should remove these inconveniences of the public.

38. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 15th June has the following:—

Railway and tramway complaints.

(1) On the 21st May last, a railway servant attached to the Sealdah station admitted a number of third-class male passengers in an inter-class ladies' compartment in the 3-53 o'clock up train on the Bengal Central Railway, in which a respectable Indian lady had taken her seat. The matter should receive the immediate attention of the railway authorities.

(2) Complaints are frequently heard against the drivers and conductors in the service of the Calcutta Tramways Company to the effect that they do not stop cars when they are called upon to do so, and that cars are set in motion when passengers are just getting into or out of them. At about 7-40 P.M. on the 12th June last, an old man, named Hari Charan Sen, fell down from No. 141 car on the Kalighat line, because conductor No. 834 of the motor car rang the bell for starting as soon as the former had grasped a handle to get in. It was only after repeated calls from passengers and the conductor of the trailer car that the driver stopped it at a distance of about 200 yards from the spot where the old man had fallen down. The latter was picked up by two Babus and a European lady. The man had received a wound on his head which was kindly bandaged with ice by the lady with her own hand. The conductors are paid according to the number of trips they make. In their anxiety to cover a trip in a very short time they, in a manner, cause accidents like the above. Our countrymen are a simple and quiet sort of people, who do not like to drag the Tramways Company to the Police Court for damages. This is what makes the Company's servants so indifferent to the personal safety of passengers.

(3) Babu Amritalal Rakshit, a respectable inhabitant of Chandernagore, is a daily passenger on the East Indian Railway. Recently he bought a monthly ticket for June at the Chandernagore station. The booking-clerk of the station, however, forgot to date the ticket. On the morning of the 11th June last, Amrita Babu was caught at the Howrah station with the undated ticket and taken to the Station-Master. Amrita Babu requested the latter to wire to Chandernagore to ascertain whether he had actually paid for the ticket or not, but to no effect. The Station-Master, a European, considered it his duty to hand over the black native to the police on a charge of cheating. Amrita Babu was taken to the *hajat*, and as it was Sunday he was kept there till the following noon, when he was taken to the Howrah Criminal Court bound with a rope along with a number of criminals. In the meantime, one of his neighbours at Chandernagore, having heard of his plight, went to the Station-Master of the place and got from him a certificate to the effect that the ticket had been issued to Amrita Babu by the booking-clerk of the station and that Amrita Babu was innocent. Amrita Babu was acquitted in the law-court on the strength of this certificate. Now, who is responsible for the long confinement in *hajat* and humiliation in an open court to which the innocent gentleman was subjected through the arbitrariness of the Station-Master of Howrah? The attention of the Government of India and the Agent of the Railway Company is drawn to the matter.

(h)—General.

39. The *Pallivasi* [Kalna] of the 1st June congratulates Dr. Ashutosh Mukherji on his appointment as a Judge of the Calcutta High Court. As there is a chronic block of business in the High Court, the appointment will most probably be made permanent in time. Dr. Mukherji's appointment

Dr. Mukherji's appointment to the High Court Bench.

DAILY HITAVADI,
June 15th, 1904.

PALLIVASI,
June 1st, 1904.

makes up the deficiency which occurred in the number of native Judges in the High Court in consequence of the retirement of Mr. Amir Ali. It is to be hoped that Dr. Mukherji will follow the footsteps of Dr. Guru Das Banerji in the even and impartial dispensation of justice. Dr. Banerji had such a keen sense of impartiality that he would never entertain in his Court cases in which his sons were retained as vakils. Justice Chandra Madhav Ghosh's devotion to justice is, however, not so whole-hearted. Parties have frequently been seen to engage such vakils as are his relatives evidently for no other purpose than to keep them sitting idle before him in his Court. It may be that Mr. Justice Ghosh harbours nothing but straightforward intentions in his heart, but circumstances like the above give rise to misgivings in men's minds.

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,
June 10th, 1904.

40. The *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 10th June congratulates Dr. Asutosh Mukherji on the recognition which the Government has made of his sterling merits by appointing him temporarily as a Judge of the Calcutta High Court. It is to be hoped that he will be made permanent in the post, and will satisfy the public by following the footsteps of the late Sir Ramesh Chandra Mitra, Justice Guru Das Banerji, Justice Chandra Madhav Ghosh, and Justice Sarada Charan Mitra.

SANJIVANI,
June 9th, 1904.

41. Referring to the Government of India's Resolution regarding the proportions of Europeans and natives in the public service, the *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 9th June writes as follows:—

The Resolution regarding the proportion of Europeans and natives in the public service.

One distinguishing feature of Lord Curzon's administration has been that it has always given an explanation of the proceedings of the Government. Former Viceroys never condescended to give a reply to anything, but not so Lord Curzon. Whenever any complaint is made against the Government, he institutes an enquiry and attempts to give a reply in support of the Government's action. One of our complaints against the Government of late years has been that though Her late Majesty's Proclamation, Lord Lytton's Delhi Darbar speech, and the recommendations of the Public Service Commission all along gave us the assurance that competent natives would be more and more largely employed in the public service, nothing has been done yet to carry this assurance into effect. Lord Curzon, accordingly, instituted an enquiry into the matter and has published long statements, and tells us that our complaint is false, as the Government has all along been reducing the number of appointments held by Europeans and increasing the number of those held by natives. We do not know for what Lord Curzon takes us. He wants to scatter our complaint to the wind and to captivate us by the mere force of his fine words. The Resolution says that the Government of India has always been anxious to redeem its pledge, and that this is proved by the fact that posts under Rs. 75 are a monopoly of the natives. A certain proof, indeed, of the Government's generosity to us! Can anybody doubt this when Government recruits all its orderlies, *chaprasis*, and peons from among natives instead of bringing them out from England? Not only the Government but every Englishman in this country is generous to us in this respect, for they never bring out their *baburchis*, *masalchis*, *khansamas*, *bhistis*, and *punkha-coolies* from England, but fill those posts in their establishments with natives.

The Resolution says that the number of appointments carrying a salary of over Rs. 75 increased from 13,431 in 1867 to 28,278 in 1903, and that most of these appointments were given to natives. But we never said either that Government never gave us any appointments in the public service or that the number of appointments given to us now is the same as the number of those given to us in 1867. We have not the least doubt that a majority of the appointments on Rs. 75 or Rs. 100 or Rs. 200 is given to natives, and that is done because no competent Eurasians, for less Europeans, can be had for such poor salaries. Yet, even in the case of such appointments, Government's partiality to Eurasians will be evident on a comparison of the proportion of the Eurasian to the native population and of the number of appointments given to each community. But the question is, why were not more appoint-

ments carrying higher salaries given to natives than was actually done? Lord Curzon in his reply says that they were. For instance, the Resolution says with some confidence that while the number of appointments, carrying salaries between Rs. 800 and Rs. 1,000, which were held by natives in 1867 were only 4, the number of such appointments held by natives in 1903 was 93. But in making this comparison with the figures for 1867, it ought to be remembered that thirty-six years ago, English education had made but little progress in India and that, therefore, the number of natives competent to enter Government service was very small. But the state of things has completely changed since then, until now thousands of Indians are receiving high English education and a considerable number of Indian youths are getting their education in England. Government has not, however, availed itself of the opportunity thus afforded of filling its services as largely with natives as it could. Lord Curzon's partiality to Europeans and Eurasians will be clear if a comparison be made between the year 1903 and the year 1897 and not the year 1867, as regards the filling up of highly paid appointments. In 1897, the number of appointments carrying salaries from Rs. 500 to Rs. 600 was 879, now the number has increased by 85, but of this increase the Indians have been fortunate enough to secure only 5, whilst Europeans have got 70 and Eurasians 10. Similarly, of the 63 appointments added since 1897 to those carrying a salary of Rs. 600—700, only five have been given to Indians, whilst 47 have been given to Europeans and 11 to Eurasians. As for appointments carrying higher salaries, one or two have been given to natives simply to stop their crying, but the majority have been a monopoly of Europeans. In 1897, for instance, the number of posts carrying a salary of Rs. 1,200—1,400 was 172. The number has since been reduced to 151, and the number of such appointments held by natives has been reduced from 10 to 8. It is true the number of these posts held by Europeans has also been reduced, but it mattered little to them, holding as they did a monopoly of all high appointments. It would have done them little harm if they had been deprived of two more posts on Rs. 1,200—1,400 and Indians been allowed to hold the ten posts they had held before. In spite of all that the Government might say in self-defence, it is clear from the way Government fills higher appointments of all grades that it has all along ignored the claim of the Indians.

The Parliamentary Statute of 1833 relating to the East India Company clearly says:—

"That no native of the said territories (India) nor any natural born subject of Her Majesty's resident therein shall, by reason only of his religion, place of birth, descent, colour, or any of them, be disabled from holding any place, office or employment under the said Government."

The same assurance was given in 1858 in Her late Majesty's Proclamation. Again this is, what Lord Lytton said in his Delhi Darbar speech in 1877:—

"You, the natives of India, whatever your race and whatever your creed, have a recognised claim to share largely with your English fellow-subjects, according to your capacity for the task, in the administration of the country you inhabit. The claim is founded on the highest justice. It is recognised by the Government of India as binding on its honour, and consistent with all the aims of its policy."

All these proclamations and declarations held out to us the hope that, if we acquired fitness, Government would not exclude us from the highest posts in its service. But the new exposition of policy given by Lord Curzon has taken away all our hopes. He indirectly says, the lower appointments will be given to competent men among you, but the higher appointments of the Indian Civil Service will always be a monopoly of Englishmen, who founded this empire and who will have to carry on its administration, and even as regards other appointments "in which scientific or technical knowledge is required or in which there is a call for the exercise of particular responsibility or for the possession of a high standard of physical endurance, it is necessary to maintain in them a great preponderance of the European element," as if scientific or technical knowledge, sense of responsibility, and capacity of physical endurance are a monopoly of Europeans! The truth is that Lord Curzon's Government want to pooh-pooh the recommendations of the Public Service Commission.

Government says that we do not possess the sense of responsibility of Englishmen, without, in the first instance, testing whether we possess it or not. Will Government kindly inform us of the special aptitude, not found in Indians, which is possessed by the Europeans employed in the Opium, the Postal, the Customs, and the Telegraph Department? In the Survey Department, there are 13 high posts, but not one of these has been given to a native, although some native officers have served the department with great distinction. A former Surveyor-General, Colonel DuPru, however, said about the native officers of the department that, on enquiry, he had found that when a survey went on, the European officers stood looking on while the native officers did all the drawing and other work. Again, Mr. Smeaton said a short time ago:—"The subordinate Indian staff do most of the work and do it remarkably well. The British departmental officers draw the lion's share of the pay but do very little work." Lord Curzon may say, on his own authority, that the natives do not possess the qualifications necessary in the incumbents of high posts under the Government, but many high Anglo-Indian officials do not share that view. Without the least regard for truth and justice, Lord Curzon said that Government had never departed from the policy laid down in its proclamations. But how would His Lordship defend Government's action in the Education Department? In that department, Europeans get free access to the Indian Service, but Indians, even if they have a European education, are always placed in the Provincial Service. Men like Dr. Prafulla Chandra Ray have had to remain in the latter service, whilst a European who is a second class M.A. of the Calcutta University has been admitted to the Indian Service. Will Lord Curzon say after this that no injustice has been done to natives? In India the literate population is only 15,685,421 and the European and Eurasian population is only 256,707. And out of a total of 28,278 appointments carrying a salary of more than Rs. 75, as many as 11,902 are held by Europeans and Eurasians and only 16,365 by natives. Yet Lord Curzon's Government shamelessly says that more and more appointments are being daily given to natives! Indeed, although Lord Curzon is regarded as a wise and considerate man, his worthlessness in some respects has quite astonished us. We have only one request to make to His Lordship—and that is, if you would not do anything for the Indians say so plainly, but do not lower yourself and the English character in the eyes of the people of this country by composing official papers full of meaningless words.

BANGAVASI,
June 11th, 1904.

42. Referring to the Government Resolution on the percentage of posts held by Europeans and Eurasians in the public service, the *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 11th June observes that Government might well spare itself the trouble of defending its own action in the matter, inasmuch as there was nothing to prevent it from doing whatever it liked. The Resolution lays down in the clearest language that Englishmen must fill the highest appointments under Government. What, after this declaration, can the people have to say?

RANGALAYA,
June 12th, 1904.

43. The *Rangalaya* [Calcutta] of the 12th June writes:—
Mr. Risley wants to prove that Hindus and Muhammadans have been extensively employed in Government service. May we ask: Is there any avenue left to us for earning our livelihood? The army, as a career, is closed against our people. Commerce, arts, agriculture are all the monopoly of Englishmen. The truth is, there is no resource left to the Indians except service. Full three-fourths of the amount spent by Government on salaries are enjoyed by Englishmen. The remaining one-fourth used to fall to the lot of Hindus and Muhammadans, but now the Eurasians must have a share along with them. The genteel classes in India do not like to live like brutes. If they cannot live like men, they do not consider life worth living. Why, then, this attempt to befool them? We have already subscribed ourselves fools. We do not dispute that Lord Curzon is a genius, that Mr. Risley is a great sage, and that the administration of India is going on excellently well. The English want to provide means of livelihood for their kinsmen, the Eurasians. What a pious desire!

44. The *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 10th June writes as follows :—

MIHIR O-SUDHAKAR
June 10th, 1904.

Oppressions on Indian pilgrims to Mecca.

The manner in which the Indian pilgrims to Mecca have, this year, been murdered, wounded, plundered, and subjected to all sorts of oppression indicates nothing but sheer negligence of duty on the part of the Sheriff of Mecca and the Hedjaz authorities. Oppressions are rarely committed on pilgrims from the other parts of Asia. Some oppression was reported to have been committed on a company of pilgrims from Egypt. This gave rise to a great agitation and the Sultan has deputed officers to enquire into the matter. But is there no one to look after the interests of the Indian pilgrims? We know that there is a British officer in Hedjaz for the purpose. But a reporter of the *Watn* newspaper says that that officer shares in the perquisites of the Sheriff. The King-Emperor is prayed to intercede with the Sultan in the matter.

45. The same paper says that through the endeavours of Babu Radha

MIHIR O-SUDHAKAR.

Repair of Fate Khan's mausoleum in the Shahabad district.

Madhav Basu, who was at one time the Deputy Magistrate of Katwa in the Burdwan district, Government has been persuaded to grant a large sum for the repair of the Rauza near Chainpur within the Bhabua Subdivision of the Shahabad district, the mausoleum of Fate Khan, son-in-law of Emperor Sher Shah. To Lord Curzon belongs the honour of being the first Viceroy who has made any great and systematic effort to preserve ancient monuments of historical interest in India, and the most hearty thanks of all the Indians are due to him for the enactment of a law for the purpose. The following is the letter which Babu Radha Madhav has received from the Archaeological Surveyor to the Government of India in respect of the Rauza near Chainpur :—

No. 82.

TO BABU RADHA MADHAV BASU,

Government Pensioner, Burdwan.

Dated Calcutta, the 7th May 1904.

DEAR SIR,

With reference to your letter *re* the Rauza near Chainpur in the Bhabua subdivision of the district of Shahabad, I am to inform you that a sum of Rs. 5,072 has been sanctioned for repairing this building, on my recommendation, by the Local Government, and that the repairs will be taken up this year.

The temple of Mundeswari, likewise, has been cleared of debris and the original structure which formed an octagon can now be seen. The fort at Chainpur is not of sufficient interest to justify any expenditure on its repairs. It certainly had not been built by a king *Salivahan*, whoever this king may have been.

Yours faithfully,

T. BLOCH,

Archaeological Surveyor.

46. A correspondent of the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 10th June speaks

HITAVADI,
June 10th, 1904.

Mr. Sanderson, the Superintendent of the Rangoon Government Press.

of the high-handed and irregular proceedings of Mr. Sanderson, the Superintendent of the Rangoon Government Press. The very first thing that he did on taking charge of the Press was to order the printing of a number of forms, which he had brought from the Government Central Press at Calcutta. The forms were printed, but they were not required in the Press. The cost of their printing was, therefore, a loss to the Government. Then Mr. Sanderson ordered that all the paid compositors in the local Jail Press should do "piece work." This he did in contravention of Government orders, because in 1899, when Mr. Ross, the present Superintendent of the Government Central Press, went to Burma to reform the Rangoon Government Press, it was settled with the Jail Department that no "piece work" should be done in the Jail Press. The Revenue Secretary to the Government of Burma also passed a distinct order in this matter in his letter No. 4P., dated the 30th October 1899, of the Accounts Department. Many of the Jail Press compositors have grown old in the service, and they petitioned Mr. Sanderson stating the hardship which his order would bring upon them, but to no effect. They have again submitted a memorial in the matter.

Mr. Sanderson is very fond of powers. He requested the Government to invest him with the powers of a first-class Magistrate on the alleged ground that every man under him in the Press was a thief and a liar. Government, of course, did not consider it necessary to give a reply to the letter which contained this request. But the authorities ought to have given him a lesson instead of remaining silent over the matter. In a letter to the Deputy Director-General of the Post Office, Mr. Sanderson recently wrote that "subordinates in Burma service are all liars, rogues, scoundrels, and thieves." The Burma Government should consider whether a man who entertains such an opinion of his subordinates should be retained in a responsible post. Mr. Sanderson's insolence knows no bounds. Mr. Hydari, the Examiner of Government Press Accounts, sent an Auditor to examine the Press accounts. But Mr. Sanderson would not allow a native to examine his accounts. Letters and telegrams from Mr. Hydari went for nothing. The matter was brought to the notice of Mr. Cox, the Comptroller-General, who wrote to Mr. Sanderson, : "You were a very troublesome officer to deal with at Calcutta. . . Be careful to submit your explanation by return of post, as the matter will be reported to the Local Government." Even this failed to bring Mr. Sanderson to his senses. He wrote to the Revenue Secretary : "The Comptroller-General may be informed that if the India Government wishes to have my accounts audited they must send a responsible European gazetted officer to audit my accounts." Writing about natives in the same letter, Mr. Sanderson made the remark that they were "unscrupulous, without any sense of responsibility, whose only aim is to find out technical objections and secure promotions." Is this the language which one gentleman should use towards another? Why does Mr. Sanderson raise objections when his accounts are to be audited? Is there anything wrong or amiss in them?

Mr. Sanderson's oppressions compelled a clerk to send in a letter of resignation, which was accepted. But when the man was about to leave the Press Mr. Sanderson asked him to withdraw the letter. The man refused. Mr. Sanderson then withdrew his own order. Why was he so generous to the man? Because he could not do without him at that time. Afterwards Mr. Sanderson dismissed this man on some false grounds. "My 13 years' experience," wrote Mr. Sanderson in accounting for this dismissal, "of the Bengali Babus has taught me that no Bengali Babu will put his neck into a noose except for a 'consideration' of some sort." If this is the opinion which he holds in respect of Bengali Babus, why are Bengali Babus imported in the Press? Why is the poor Babu appointed and then dismissed on false charges? Has Mr. Sanderson any hidden motive in acting in this manner? However, vagaries like these do not look well in a Government office. Government is therefore requested to lose no time in taking steps in the matter.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
June 13th, 1904.

47. Referring to the cow-killing case in Azamgarh, the *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 13th June observes as follows:—

The cow-killing riot in Azamgarh.

During the incumbency of Sir James LaTouche the Hindus are being oppressed. People say that he is favourably disposed towards the Musalmans. Is it for this reason that the holy shrines of the Hindus are being defiled by the cow-eating Julahas? A similar oppression was committed by the Musalmans in 1903. On that occasion, also, the people said that the Government's favourable attitude towards the Musalmans was the cause of that horrible incident.

DACCA GAZETTE,
June 13th, 1904.

48. The *Dacca Gazette* [Dacca] of the 13th June has the following in its English columns:—

The proposed dismemberment of Dacca.

There are persistent rumours that a portion of the Dacca district, viz., the Raipura thana, is going to be transferred to Mymensingh. It need hardly be said that these rumours have caused widespread alarm among the population of Raipura. Considerations of administrative convenience are always paramount in the counsels of our rulers in questions like this, and they rarely, if ever, pay any heed to popular representations. But still we think it our duty to point out that the change will be fraught with many evils to the population to be affected thereby. At present, the people of Raipura, owing to steamer communication and other facilities for travelling, do not feel any inconvenience in coming to Dacca and Narainjanj. We do not know where the head-quarters

of the new subdivision of Mymensingh, within which Raipura is to be included, will be located; but we are certain that the new place will be infinitely less convenient than Narainganj in many respects. If it is located in the interior of the country instead of some riverside station, then the troubles of the people will know no bounds. Yet this is likely to be the case, if rumours are to be relied on. Then, it is clear to everyone that a journey from Raipura to the town of Mymensingh is attended with troubles and hardships which few people would care to face unless compelled by urgent necessity. The miseries of litigants will thus know no bounds if the change be carried into effect.

We have no desire here to touch upon what is called the "sentimental" aspect of the question. When sentimental considerations have been treated with such contempt by the authorities in the great partition agitation, we cannot expect better treatment for them now. We must say, however, that the separation of Raipura from other portions of a district with which it has been associated from time immemorial by so many ties cannot but be painful in the extreme. The educated community of Raipura has been blamed by many for their supposed apathy in a matter of such vital moment to them. But there is really no such apathy. The fact is, the people are completely in the dark. They feel that these rumours might, after all, be baseless, and all demonstrations or protests based upon them might prove premature. They are waiting until the matter comes up to the stage of the publication of a Government Resolution on the subject when, however, the matter being as good as settled, all protests and memorials will probably be as cries in the wilderness.

We still hope that considerations of administrative expediency will not be allowed in this instance to override those of popular convenience, and that our rulers will have the good sense to desist from carrying out the change.

III.—LEGISLATION.

49. The *Pallivasi* [Kalna] of the 1st June says that a judgment recently delivered by Mr. Justice Chandra Madhav Ghosh and Mr. Justice Pargiter in Sadar appeal No. 11-62 of 1901 from the Burdwan Division, curtails the rights of members of joint-families in their self-acquired properties by setting aside the current precedents on the subject. It is a dangerous thing to allow people to obtain shares in other people's properties simply on the ground of their having lived jointly. The Hindu law of properties and inheritance has become extremely intricate. It should be simplified, especially as regards that portion of it which deals with self-acquired properties. One loses one's way among the thousands of case-laws which have now grown round the *Dayabhaga*, and this gives rise to differences of opinion among lawyers and judges. A codification is necessary to simplify the law and free it from ambiguity.

PALLIVASI,
June 1st, 1904.

IV.—NATIVE STATES.

50. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 9th June says that the secret purpose for which His Highness the Maharaja of Kashmir was made a tool in the hands of the Resident by Lord Lansdowne seems now to be going to be accomplished. Rumour has it that His Highness has given permission for planting a colony of Europeans and Eurasians in the valley of Kashmir, and that a company of British soldiers will be stationed there for their protection. Oppression of the natives by the British soldiers, multiplication of the Eurasian race by contact of the colonists with Kashmiris, and the flooding of the country with Europeans and Eurasians,—these will be the inevitable consequences of the proposed colonisation.

SANJIVANI,
June 9th, 1904.

51. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 10th June writes as follow:—
A correspondent says that the Kashmir State will be turned into a European colony, and that the Maharaja of Kashmir has given his consent to this. Some time ago there was a persistent rumour to the effect that Lord Curzon

HITAVADI,
June 10th, 1904.

desired to take the State from the Maharaja, but it was then contradicted by the Anglo-Indian Press led by the *Pioneer* of Allahabad. But those who knew Lord Curzon well could not be fully reassured by the contradiction. And the present rumour of European colonisation proves that the former rumour was not altogether baseless. The European colonists will gradually drive away the Hindu and Musalman inhabitants of the State, and the Maharaja will, in the long run, be deprived of all powers within his own dominion. It is to be hoped that the authorities will lose no time in contradicting the report if it is false.

HITAVARTA,
June 12th, 1904.

52. Kashmir, the paradise of Hindustan, may not, says the *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 12th June, be converted into a European colony as was rumoured some time ago, but it will be made a sanitarium for Europeans. Its present inhabitants, in that case, will be driven out by the new-comers, and even the sovereignty of its ruler over that State will become only nominal.

DAILY HITAVADI,
June 10th, 1904.

53. A correspondent of the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 10th June says that the Garjat Chiefs in the Orissa Division grant the exclusive right of purchasing goods in their States to foreign merchants and other persons, usually in return for a large sum of consideration money. By the terms of the contract the cultivator is bound to sell his produce to those merchants and to no other. If any other man offers higher prices, the cultivator is not permitted to sell his goods to him. The poor people are entirely powerless against these oppressions and consequently suffer in silence. The loss which they have to suffer under this tyranny is very great. There ought to be a law preventing the Garjat Chiefs from subjecting their raiyats to such oppression and loss.

DAILY HITAVADI,
June 13th, 1904.

54. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 13th June writes:—
After the retirement from office of the old Dewan of Baroda, Baman Sankar Bahadur, a Muhammadan has been appointed in his place. This is extremely gratifying to us. Maharaja Sayaji Rao Gaekwar has shown his appreciation of merit by appointing the Khan Bahadur as his Prime Minister. The new Prime Minister, though a Muhammadan, commands the respect of all sections of the subjects. This appointment shows how the Hindus and of Muhammadans love each other in the Native States, in which Indian students are not compelled to read books containing libellous attacks upon Muhammadans as is done in British India. This is why one finds no objection made to the appointment of a Hindu Prime Minister in the Nizam's dominions and of a Muhammadan Prime Minister in the Gaekwar's dominions. It is now clear to every one that Native Princes reward merit without distinction of race or creed, and that the English rulers, though civilized and professing equality, fail to do so.

As illustrations we may point out that the English rulers have not yet bestowed the Commissionership of such a vast area as that of the Gaekwar's dominions upon any Muhammadan and a post of such distinction as the Premiership of the Nizam's dominions upon any Hindu. The truth is, the British Government does not place so much trust upon Hindus and Muhammadans as these communities do upon each other in the Native States. It is to be regretted that many ignorant Hindus and Muhammadans forget that the English are foreigners and are guided by the policy of "divide and rule." It is these Hindus and Muhammadans who distrust and revile each other. Those who cannot free themselves from a spirit of hostility with such examples of amity between Hindus and Muhammadans in Native States before them are indeed objects of pity.

PALLIVASI,
June 1st, 1904.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

55. The *Pallivasi* [Kalna] of the 1st June thanks the District Magistrate of Burdwan for his kind and sympathetic management of the relief-works under the Galsi thana. He personally inspects the works every week. Many roads have been constructed and many tanks excavated. The work of excavating tanks should be pushed on in those villages in which failures of crops are occasioned by their want, because the rains will soon set in.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

56. The *Tripura Hitaishi* [Comilla] of the 7th June writes as follows:—

Equality, the corner-stone of India's regeneration.

India is the land of inequalities. The caste system ever creates division. Is it possible that a nation permanently afflicted with that terrible malady—caste, should ever raise its head? English education and Western culture were beginning to counteract the evil influence of caste and lay the foundations of equality. But the current seems to have changed of late. There appear to be two opposing forces proceeding from two distinct quarters—first, the Hindu religious preacher, secondly, Government. The former maintains that everything in this country is perfect; that our religion, our morals, and our social usages are the best imaginable; that the *mlechchhas* possess no virtues worth imitating; that sea-voyages, visiting the country of the *mlechchhas*, and coming in contact with them, are all most sinful acts; that if only the Aryan religion can be maintained in its purity, if the caste system remains intact, and if the existing inequality can be preserved and perpetuated, then only will the country prosper; let Brahman supremacy be established, and society will improve; we do not wish to be *yavans* and hate *ekakar* (uniformity).

As regards Government, it says nothing openly, but appears in practice most careful to preserve separation and division. Just mark the anxiety of Government to keep alive all the different languages of India. Even the languages of the Nagas, the Kukis, and the Daflas have been given a place in the statistics of Government! If only the caste system in India lives for ever, Europeans can easily occupy a position higher than that of the Brahmans. Who is such a fool as to give up this advantage? The British Lion, when in his native den, has a mien very different from what he assumes when he goes out to foreign lands in search of prey. Englishmen are worshippers of equality in their own country; but in other countries, especially in India, they forget their native instinct. Here they occupy a higher platform and call us "natives," "niggers." How many among them sincerely desire that we should raise our heads and proceed onward?

How can Englishmen brook equality in India, where they have been accustomed to hear such expressions as the following:—"Huzur khodabund, you are our *ma bap*"; "I am your *golam* (slave)"; "Jonab Ali, I am not worthy to carry your shoes"? Even learned pleaders address a Deputy Commissioner or a Magistrate as "Your Honour," an expression which is applicable only to the Lieutenant-Governor. The idea of equality is foreign to the people of this country, who are ever inclined to make differences where none actually exist.

But we must always fight for equality. In Japan society rests upon equality, and Japan's example is an object-lesson to us. Equality can only exist in a country where the people are emerging out of the darkness of ignorance and where real instruction has commenced. Inequality is division and equality means unity. India will never rise if a system of education is not established which helps to eradicate the difference between man and man.

57. Referring to the welcome accorded to Lord Curzon in England, the

Lord Curzon's reception in England.

Sanjivani [Calcutta] of the 9th June says:—

It is doubtful whether any other Governor-General received such an ovation on his return from India. This is strange. We do not know what good he has done to India for which he is honoured so much. He came to India to widen the prospect of Europeans and he has succeeded in his mission. Probably it is for this that he is so much praised.

58. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 11th June has an article headed

Lord Curzon's Eton speech.

"A Permanent Viceroy," in which the writer observes:—

In his Eton dinner speech Lord Curzon said that the Viceroyalty of India should be a permanent post. The first five or six years of a Viceroy's tenure of office, according to his Lordship, are spent in acquiring that experience and wisdom which are essential in managing the affairs of a country like

TRIPURA
HITAISHI,
June 7th, 1904.

SANJIVANI,
June 9th, 1904.

DAILY HITAVADI,
June 11th, 1904.

India, where the political situation is so intricate. That there is much truth in these remarks must be admitted. But how far Lord Curzon's suggestion may be acted upon under the present system of Government in England is the question. There are two political parties in England, the Liberals and the Conservatives. Lord Curzon and Lord Amthill belong to the latter party. As long as this party remains in power, Lord Curzon may continue as Viceroy in India. But on the accession to power of the Liberals, his Lordship must take his departure, and another Peer of the Liberal party will be appointed as Viceroy.

But if five years are required for acquiring the necessary experience, it would be a much better arrangement to make the aspirant after the Indian Viceroyalty pass a period of probation in India for that term. We are of opinion that instead of sending a noble Lord from England to be the Viceroy of India, the Governor of Bombay or of Madras, after five years of successful administration in his Province, should be promoted to that high office.

Continuance in any post for a long time no doubt brings experience to the holder of that post. If there is any chance of that experience being used for the country's good, we have nothing to say against the proposed extension of office for the Viceroy of India. During Muhammadan rule the people were happy under the permanent subadars, because the interests of Hindus and Muhammadans were identical. But now the Viceroy comes from a foreign country, and the interests of the rulers and the ruled in India are more or less antagonistic. Under the circumstances, we do not think it desirable that the Indian Viceroyalty should be made permanent. But an irresponsible administrator like Lord Curzon should never be allowed to remain in India for a long time.

URIYA PAPERS.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD,
June 1st, 1904.

59. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 1st June states that there was an insufficient rainfall in the last week.

The rainfall.

Though in some places of the Balasore district agricultural operations are in full swing, in other places they are at a standstill.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD.

60. The same paper regrets to learn that Sir Andrew Fraser is slightly indisposed and hopes that His Honour will recover soon.

The Lieutenant-Governor's health.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD.

61. The same paper hails with pleasure the appointment of Dr. Asutosh Mukherji as a Judge of the Calcutta High Court and hopes that the learned Doctor will satisfy the expectations of his countrymen.

Dr. Ashutosh Mukherji's appointment.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD.

62. The same paper contradicts a report of the last week that the Maharaja of Mayurbhanj has sanctioned three scholarships for the education of three Indians in industrial arts in Europe, America, and Japan.

A contradiction.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD.

63. The same paper regrets to learn that there is a strike among fishermen in Balasore. It is said that this is due to the infliction of a term of imprisonment on a fisherwoman, who was found to sell rotten fish in the bazar.

The fishermen's strike at Balasore.

The writer observes that the representatives of the public must now try to conciliate the fishermen by all means in their power.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD.

64. The same paper is glad to learn that the Raja of Khalikote and Athgarh in the Madras Presidency is going to hold a public meeting in his State, whither the representatives of all his subjects will be invited.

An ensuing national meeting in Khalikote and Athgarhe.

The object of the meeting will be to discuss social and economical problems affecting the interests of the State. An exhibition of the products of industrial arts and agriculture will also be held in connection therewith.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD.

65. The same paper makes an attempt to instil the patriotism of the Japanese into the minds of its readers by narrating the story of that young Japanese who committed suicide because he was not permitted to serve as a soldier on account of some defect in his lungs.

Japanese patriotism.

66. The *Gurjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 4th June has discovered a kind of white earth in mauza Balunga in Talcher, that may be usefully employed in painting walls of houses. The writer suggests that this valuable earth ought to find a good market. *A discovery.* GARJATBASINI,
June 4th, 1904.
67. The same paper states that there was an insufficient rainfall in the last week. Agricultural operations are not therefore advancing at a rapid rate. The rise of water in the bed of the Brahmini river leads the writer to conclude that there will be sufficient water in the near future. *The rainfall.* GARJATBASINI.
68. The same paper states that a well-to-do man, named Sagar Mahakura, in mauza Saira in Panchanhak Bise in killa Pallahara, was one day found murdered in his own house. The Pallahara police has not yet been able to trace out the murderer. It may be stated here parenthetically that his elder brother, Nirakar Mahakura, was also murdered in a *mélée* formed by the turbulent *Kolahs* and *Gonds* of Pallahara. *A case of murder in Pallahara.* GARJATBASINI.
69. The same paper is glad to announce that the Raja of Dhenkanal has selected Kapilas, a mountain of that State, for his sanitarium and he means to spend his summer weeks in that place. It is said that the water of the streams flowing from Kapilas is wholesome and invigorating and has almost a medicinal value. *The Raja of Dhenkanal's summer residence.* GARJATBASINI.
70. The same paper states that a man was killed by a falling branch of a tree in Talcher. *A case of accidental death.* GARJATBASINI,
71. The same paper says that the supply of mangoes in Talcher is diminishing. *The mango.* GARJATBASINI.
72. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 4th June is sorry to learn that Pandit Srikrishna Pada Bidyaratna, Professor of Sanskrit in the Ravenshaw College, and Pandit Purusotam Tarkalankar, Teacher of Sanskrit in the Ravenshaw Collegiate School, have received Rs. 150 and Rs. 200 respectively from the Raja of Barakhemundi with the ostensible object of publishing the *Victoria Charit* and the second part of *Prakriya Kaumudi* without making any serious attempt to publish the works within a reasonable period. The writer thinks that the Raja as also the general public would have been much more benefited had those works been published in the Raja's own press. *The publication of two books deferred.* UTKALDIPIKA.
June 4th, 1904.
73. The same paper is of opinion that it is the bounden duty of the charitable public to help the Mahammadan school, named *Madrassa Islamia*, started three years ago at Rantrapur through the indefatigable exertions of Kaji Mirza Mahamud Yusuf Beg, who is a gentleman of limited means and is therefore not in a position to maintain the institution without any aid. As the school has on its rolls 64 boys and 43 girls, it is the duty of the charitable public to help the institution in every way. *The Musalman school at Rantrapur.* UTKALDIPIKA.
74. Referring to the abolition of the Cooper's Hill College in England, the same paper points out that the decision to abolish the College is a good one, for it is not at all fair that foreigners should be trained at the expense of India so that Indians may, in due course, be ostracised from the Civil Service of their motherland. The writer observes that a really good College should be established in India to turn out good Indian Engineers. *The abolition of the Cooper's Hill College.* UTKALDIPIKA.
75. The same paper gives a short account of the proceedings of a meeting held at Puri in connection with the opening of a charitable dispensary near the Lion Gate of the temple of god Jagannath. Mr. Growse, the Commissioner, presided over the meeting. The popular and sympathetic Collector of Puri explained the history and object of the movement. The meeting closed its proceedings after acknowledging the services of the Civil Surgeon and the Municipal Vice-Chairman and the liberality of the Mahanta of the Emar Matha in grateful and fitting terms. *The opening of a charitable dispensary in Puri town.* UTKALDIPIKA.

UTKALDIPKA,
June 4th, 1904.

76. The same paper states that though there was good rain in the Jajpur subdivison of the Cuttack district the rainfall in other parts of that district was not sufficient. The writer thinks that the monsoon rains will soon set in.

UTKALDIPKA.

77. The same paper regrets that the results of the Entrance examination as shown by the Jajpur Higher English School are very unsatisfactory, for all the candidates sent by that school were plucked.

UTKALDIPKA.

78. The same paper does not at all approve of the appointment of Miss Sorabji as Standing Counsel to the Bengal Government in the department of the Court of Wards.

The writer thinks that it is simply a waste of public money.

UTKALDIPKA.

79. The same paper gives a short account of the Russo-Japanese war and admires the pluck and dash of the Japanese both on land and water, which have elicited high praise even from Europeans and Americans.

ASSAM PAPERS.

PARIDARSAN,
May 31st, 1904.

80. The *Paridarsak* [Sylhet] of the 31st May complains of the want of waiting-rooms in all the stations on the Assam-Bengal Railway. This causes great inconvenience and hardship to passengers. Again, Karimganj is a large station on the line and commands a much larger number of passengers than the Badarpur station. But the mail trains stop for only three minutes at the former and for nearly an hour at the latter. This causes great inconvenience to Karimganj passengers, who are sometimes left behind by the trains owing to such short stoppage. The stoppage at the Badarpur station should be reduced and that at the Karimganj station should be increased to 10 or 15 minutes.

PARIDARSAN.

81. The same paper says that no official should have any connection with the work of raising subscriptions for a public purpose, and supports this remark by publishing a letter which Babu Banwarilal Banerji, the Munsif of Habiganj, has written to the members of the Committee which was some time ago formed, with himself as its President, for raising subscriptions for erecting a corrugated iron shed in the local Kali *Mandir*.

NARAYAN CHANDRA BHATTACHARYYA,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

The 18th June, 1904.